

## Asian Advisory Council Meeting

**DATE:** Monday, February 28, 2005

**TIME:** 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

**PLACE:** Salt Lake County Complex, 2001 South State Street, Room N 4010

### ATTENDANCE:

---

Edie Mitko, Director, Office of Asian Affairs, Hao Zhu-Chinese Community, Kheng Ty-Cambodian Community, Nadeen Ahmed-Pakistani Community, Murari Pradhan-Nepalese Community, Maung Maung-Burmese Community, Suri Suddhiphayak-Thai Community, Suri Suddhiphayak-Thai Community, CC Patel-Asian Indian Community, Mila Baldazo-Filipino Community, Karen Kwan-Chinese Community, Needra Nanayakkara-Sri Lankan Community, Holly Ty, Cambodian Community, Valerie Lamb, Office of Black Affairs. Darrell Kirby, Department of Community and Economic Development

---

### EXCUSED:

---

John Vang-Hmong Community, Hannah Phan-Vietnamese Community, Murari Pradhan-Nepalese Community, Kheng P. Ty, Cambodian Community

---

### 1. Welcome:

- Edie Mitko, Director, Office of Asian Affairs opened the meeting at 4:36 p.m. and welcomed everyone and introduced Valerie Lamb, secretary from the Office of Black Affairs. Edie mentioned the ethnic secretaries will be helping with all ethnic offices regarding council meetings.

### 2. Guest: Tanta Lisa Clayton, Utah Legal Services, Inc.

- The Utah Legal Services is a non-profit law firm to provide legal services for low-income elderly seniors. Utah Legal Service has a special contract with the state to provide these three major concerns: 1) Housing with evictions, 2) Public Benefits; (SSI, SSDT, Food Stamps etc...), 3) Domestic Violence with protective orders.
- The Utah Legal Service has partnership with Salt Lake City Aging Services to provide free legal service to individuals 60 years and older. One of the program is to out-reach the non-english speaking seniors to let them know about the services Utah Legal Service has provide; with estate planning, simple wills, medical directives, special power of attorney, and guardianship.
- The Utah Legal Service is asking for a list from each community to help implement this program throughout the communities. Edie indicated that she will E-mail Tanya Lisa Clayton a list of the committees.
- The new Executive Director, Yvette Diaz from the Department of Community and Culture was unavailable to attend the Asian Advisory Council meeting, but will attend as her schedule permits.

### 3. Approval of Minutes:

- The January 24, 2005 minutes were approved with corrections as written. Murari Pradhan asked to be excused from the AAC meeting. Murari accepted a new job in Arizona with Department of Transportation. Murari asked if his daughter would be able to take his place as a member of AAC. Edie mentioned she needed to have a letter of support from the Nepali community and would be happy to send applications to the governor's office for recommendation. Karie Minaga-Miya moved. Mila Baldazo seconded. Motion carried.

#### 4. Director's Report:

- Edie met with Karen Narasaki, an Asian Attorney for the Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium in Washington D C. Karen and Judge Ray Uno were honor at the American Bar Association luncheon.
- Tracy indicated she needs a list of all Asian officials elected or appointed to a board committee.
- Salt Lake Community College is having a week of Asian events: The Art of Origami, Chinese Film, and "Taste of Asian." The Asian Student Association of Salt Lake Community College invites you to enjoy a national theatrical presentation called "Here and Now" about Asian American lifestyles. The event will be held on Friday, March 4, 2005 at Taylorville High School Auditorium, student tickets are free, faculty, staff and public tickets are \$7.00 each.
- Edie sent out an E-mail from requesting volunteers for the Rape Recovery Advisory board. Mimi Peterson, Japanese community has offered to participate on this Board.
- The new directors of Black Affairs, Hispanic Affairs, and Pacific Islander Affairs offices should be announced around March 14, 2005. Yvette Diaz, Executive Director for Department of Community and Culture will hold town hall meetings with all the new directors (Asian Affairs, Black Affairs, Hispanic Affairs, Pacific Islander Affairs and Division of Indian Affairs) in St. George. There will also be meetings in Logan, Ogden, Salt Lake City, and Utah Valley. Edie asked the council to find out if any of the Asian organizations in the St. George area should be added to the Asian Resource Directory. If so, forward the names of the organizations to Edie.
- Utah's First Lady, Mary Kaye Huntsman, has introduced a new program called, "Power-in-You" Student Ambassadors. The Ethnic Offices have been asked to assist in identifying qualified high school students (15-17 years of age) from diverse backgrounds who have overcome major life challenges. All names need to be submitted to Edie by March 14, 2005.
- Mila Baldazo will represent the Asian Advisory Council on March 3, 2005 at 2:00 p.m. regarding incorporating "Power-in-You" with the GIFT Conference.

#### 5. Chair's & Committee's Reports:

- **Meeting with Director:** Maung and 5 other AAC members met with Yvette Diaz reviewing the executive order, work plan, and by-laws. One of the main focuses is for the Council members to remain active with state agencies working with their policy plans, and distributing information needed throughout their communities.
- **Education:** Education Issues summary report was handed out in packet regarding the results of the First Annual Joint Ethnic Council Retreat. Edie suggested the council met with Deputy of Education (Bridgewater) after the summit.
- **Criminal Justice:** "Know Your Rights" at Sorenson Multicultural Center will discuss federal assistant and public benefits available in Utah. Presentations will be by Karen Silver and Sheila Walsh from Salt Lake Community Action Program. One of the future seminar topics will be on the juvenile justice system.
- **Hate Crime Bill:** The Hate Crime Bill was defeated. The Council decided to have a meeting in October, 2005 to learn about the hate crime bill.
- **Health:** Next meeting invite a guest from the health department.
- **Economic Development:** Asian Chamber of Commerce had their first opening reception and many of our ethnic communities contributed food for the event. Edie mentioned if the council members know of any business people that would like to join the Asian Chamber of Commerce to forward names to her.
- **History of Pictures/Events:** Kim no report. Darrell and Valerie will start a history of the Asian Advisory Council events from the past 4 years. Mila will donate albums for history collections.
- **Federal Income Tax:** File income tax online use telephone service by calling 211.

- **Summit:** The Asian Leadership Summit is schedule for April 9, 2005 from 9:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.
- **Prison Dinner:** The prison dinner is to be schedule for a later date.
- **GIFT:** GIFT Conference meeting on March 3, 2005 at 2:00 p.m. Mila Baldaza will attend.

## 6. Community Reports:

- **Asian Indian:** March 5, Night of Lord Shiva, Spanish Fork Krishna Temple at 5:00 p.m., Dance, Drama, Hot Meals, etc...Free Admission/ March 8, 2005 Night of Lord Shiva, South Jordan Hindu Temple at 6:30 p.m., Entertainment, Food, etc...Free Admission/March 25, Holi, Festival of Colors, South Jordan Hindu Temple in the evening, Dance, Music, Food, Colors, etc...Free admission/March 26, Holi, Festival of Colors, Spanish Fork Krishna Temple at 4:00 p.m., Dance, Music, Food, Colors, etc...Free Admission
- **Burmese:** The Buddhist New Year "Water Festival" celebration will be in April. The Burmese community will help volunteer at the Buddhist Temple on the March 19.
- **Cambodian:** Festival in April
- **Chinese:** In Salt Lake City on March 19-April 3 the community will present a panel and art exhibit show called "Vanish the Lost History of Chinese in the Intermountain West." The University of Utah, Union Building on March 12, from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. will present "Chinese Immigrants to the U.S." free admission and open to the public. The Chinese community is working with historians regarding the possible name change for "Chinaman Ridge" which is located near Promontory Point. The Chinese community is asking that the State of Utah Defense Driver Manual review what they perceive as a racially inappropriate picture. The Council felt it should be removed or replace in the manual.
- **Filipino:** The Alliance Filipino in Utah (AFU) donated \$2,000.00 to help the flood victims in the Philippines through the ABS-CBN Foundation Inc. in California. **On March 18, the AFU is sponsoring a Tsunami Fundraiser during** their 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Celebration, (Cultural Program and Dance) to be held at East Sea Café, 3625 S. Redwood Rd, Salt Lake City. Registration starts at 6:00 p.m. and the Cultural Program begins at 7:00 p.m. The ticket cost is \$17.00 per person.
- **Japanese:** On February 19, "Day of Remembrance" celebrated the history of the Japanese community in (old Japan town, 100 South) SLC. The Japanese community has a senior luncheon, which is often held at the Buddhist Temple Church or the Japanese Church of Christ. Nijon/Matsuri celebration will be on April 30, the Japanese Consul General will be in attendance.
- **Korean:** In March the Korean community will sponsor two Korean speech contests for non-Koreans at U of U and BYU, awards have been contributed for winners. Korean community will meet with church Ministers (10 churches from Ogden to Provo) for help with programs. Korean community is planning a youth and parent summer camp in July. The Senior Association is working with citizen regarding testing for home energy assistance. The community has their own tax return system utilizing accounting majors from universities or colleges.
- **Lao:** New Year Festival on April 23, Thai and Cambodian Festival.
- **Nepalese:** No report
- **Pakistani:** Nadeem volunteered as a judge for a Science Fair at an elementary school. Nadeem also participated as a panel member speaking on the topic of discrimination of minorities in the workplace
- **Sri Lankan:** Art Auction Fundraiser on February 25 at Wells Fargo building, 30 pieces of art was donated and 400 people in attendance
- **Thai:** Thai Temple in Layton will have the "relics" on display March 17, 18, and 19. On February 25, Channel 2 Tsunami Flood-2 part story.
- **Vietnamese:** Vietnamese New Year celebration at West Valley Cultural Center.

---

**Next Meeting:** March 21, 2005 at Salt Lake City Library – 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room – 4:30pm

**Adjourned:** Mila Baldazo adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m. Hao Zhu moved. C.C. Patel seconded.